



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
2000 NAVY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON DC 20350-2000

OPNAVINST 1754.7A
N095
26 Mar 2018

OPNAV INSTRUCTION 1754.7A

From: Chief of Naval Operations

Subj: RETURNING WARRIOR WORKSHOP PROGRAM

Ref: (a) Public Law 110-181
(b) DoD Instruction 1342.28 of 30 March 2011
(c) CNO WASHINGTON DC 051201Z Jun 08 (NAVADMIN 160/08)
(d) OPNAVINST 1754.6

1. Purpose. To establish policy, responsibilities, and authority to implement and execute a dynamic Returning Warrior Workshop program, per the authority and requirements of reference (a), section 582 and reference (b). The Returning Warrior Workshop will serve as the principal reintegration event for demobilizing and redeploying Sailors. This instruction is a complete revision and should be reviewed in its entirety.

2. Cancellation. OPNAVINST 1754.7.

3. Background. The Returning Warrior Workshop program was established to provide reintegration support for Reserve Component (RC) Sailors. Developed in response to the marked increase in awareness of the importance of a continuum of care, Returning warrior workshops place emphasis on Sailors and their reintegration upon return from overseas deployments and mobilizations as units or individual augmentees (IA). Returning warrior workshops are standardized events and are a key component of the Department of Defense (DoD) Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program. The Returning Warrior Workshop Program is designed to address personal stress that may be generated by deployment activities. It supports and facilitates the reintegration of the deployed Sailor with his or her spouse, family, friends, and employer. The Returning Warrior Workshop Program also provides a safe, relaxed atmosphere in which to identify and address potential issues that may arise during post-deployment reintegration. Returning warrior workshops must include, but are not limited to, the actions listed in subparagraphs 3a through 3h.

- a. Education on normal stress reactions related to the mobilization experience and reintegration process and the signs and symptoms that may require additional support.
- b. Identification of potential post deployment challenges including operational stress, post-traumatic stress and relationship readjustment issues.
- c. Facilitation of group discussions which promote the sharing of similar experiences.

d. Feedback and lessons learned sessions focused on the mobilization and demobilization processes.

e. Education on resources available to Sailors and their support network.

f. Education on improving psychological health.

g. Enhancement of the resiliency of Sailors and their ability to better cope with future assignments or deployments.

h. The honoring of Sailors and their families for their sacrifices.

4. Applicability. The Returning Warrior Workshop Program is targeted toward and reaches out to IA Sailors and their guests (spouses, family and friends) as well as RC members who mobilize as members of a unit. Per references (c) and (d), an IA is defined as any Sailor in receipt of individual deployment orders from Navy Personnel Command Augmentation Division (PERS-46), to include IA manpower management assignments, overseas contingency operations support assignments, mobilized Reserve personnel not mobilized as part of an established commissioned RC unit, and Health Services Augmentation Program personnel. The Returning Warrior Workshop Program will also be made available to Active Component and RC members from the other Services and their families, as required, when space and funding are available.

5. Responsibilities

a. The Office of the Chief of Navy Reserve (OCNR) must coordinate with the Navy Reserve Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program liaison officer on overarching strategy and policy for Returning Warrior Workshop programs that support the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program.

b. Bureau of Medicine and Surgery (BUMED) must fund and execute the Returning Warrior Workshop event planner contract and provide the psychological health outreach staff support for the returning warrior workshops.

c. Commander, Navy Reserve Forces Command (COMNAVRESFORCOM) must provide plans supporting the implementation, execution, and maintenance of returning warrior workshop programs and events.

6. Action. COMNAVRESFORCOM must designate dedicated uniformed or civil service personnel as Returning Warrior Workshop program managers (PM) accountable for the implementation, execution, and maintenance of the returning warrior workshop program within all regional Reserve Component commands.

a. The Returning Warrior Workshop PM must:

(1) Develop the structure and plans necessary to implement, execute, and maintain the returning warrior workshop programs.

(2) Collaborate with the BUMED contracting officer representative overseeing the returning warrior workshop contract to ensure that all returning warrior workshops funded under the contract are uniformly and efficiently implemented and executed and fall within the contract performance work statements.

(3) Collaborate with BUMED's director of psychological health outreach for the Navy Reserve to ensure the sustained support of all returning warrior workshops by the Navy Reserve psychological health outreach coordinators and counselors assigned to each Navy region's Reserve Component command.

(4) Ensure that speakers, presentation materials, and resource documents provided for the returning warrior workshops remain aligned and consistent with Navy policy and doctrine.

(5) Develop a strategic marketing and communication plan to ensure the maximum participation of the targeted population.

(6) Execute and sustain the Returning Warrior Workshop program to maximize outreach and care to the affected population and family members.

(7) Liaise directly with commands to ensure all deploying RC units and IAs have reintegration support as needed.

b. All subordinate commands or claimants must implement, execute, and maintain the returning warrior workshop program per returning warrior workshop PM directives.

7. Records Management. Records created by this instruction, regardless of media and format, must be managed per Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) Manual 5215.1 of January 2012.

8. Review and Effective Date. Per OPNAVINST 5215.17A, Chief of Navy Reserve (CNO N095) will review this instruction annually on the anniversary of its issuance date to ensure applicability, currency, and consistency with Federal, DoD, SECNAV, and Navy policy and statutory authority using OPNAV 5215/40 Review of Instruction. This instruction will be in effect for 5 years, unless revised or cancelled in the interim, and will be reissued by the 5-year

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anniversary date if it is still required, unless it meets one of the exceptions in OPNAVINST 5215.17A, paragraph 9. Otherwise, if the instruction is no longer required, it will be processed for cancellation as soon as the cancellation is known following the guidance in OPNAV Manual 5215.1.



L. M. McCOLLUM
Chief of Navy Reserve

Releasability and distribution:

This instruction is cleared for public release and is available electronically only, via Department of the Navy Issuances Web site, <http://doni.documentservices.dla.mil>